

## **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**BA-1197**

**Keeney's Mill Worker House No. 1**

**20644 Keeney Mill Road**

**Freeland, Baltimore County**

**Circa 1880**

**Private**

Located at 20644 Keeney Mill Road, the Keeney's Mill Worker's House Number 1 was constructed circa 1880 near Middletown in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. According to oral history, the dwelling was constructed to provide housing for the workers at Keeney's Mill. The gristmill, which was constructed by the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was located at the intersection of Ruhl and Keeney Mill Roads. In 1885, Keeney's Mill replaced the grinding stones with self-contained roller grinding units that improved the quality of the flour. Although the exact date of construction for the house was not determined, architectural evidence and historic maps support a circa 1880 date. Although the mill was constructed by 1850, the dwelling does not appear on the 1850 J. C. Sidney Atlas or the 1877 Hopkins Atlas. This was one of two workers houses constructed adjacent to Keeney's Mill.

Facing southeast along Keeney Mill Road, this vernacular single-family dwelling is located in a rural setting with a rolling landscape. Raising two stories high upon a full-height coursed rubble stone basement, this wood frame house is three bays wide with an eave-oriented roof. A full-width shed-roof covering the first story sits atop the stone foundation leaving access to the side passage entrance to the basement. The porch is supported with square wood posts and a scroll sawn balustrade. The basement and first story entries contain single-leaf wood paneled doors. The first story entry is illuminated with a two-light transom, and five 1/1 double-hung vinyl sash windows pierce the façade. Two interior-end brick corbeled cap chimneys rise above the standing-seam metal side-gable roof featuring overhanging eaves. Alterations to the house include its re-cladding with aluminum siding, including the thin surrounds, sills, and the boxed cornice. Standing on the hill to the northeast of the house (rear), are two historic outbuildings associated with this property, a circa 1950 wood-frame chicken coop and shed.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1197

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Keeney's Mill Worker House No. 1

other

### 2. Location

street and number 20644 Keeney Mill Road not for publication

city, town Freeland vicinity

county Baltimore County

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name John N. and Julie B. Madill

street and number 20644 Keeney Mill Road telephone Not Available

city, town Freeland state MD zip code 21053-9619

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 15231 folio 522

city, town Towson tax map 6 tax parcel 274 tax ID number 1600008789

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other:

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	3
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	3
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			1

## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-1197

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Facing southeast along Keeney Mill Road, this vernacular single-family dwelling is located in a rural setting in a rolling landscape. Raising two stories high upon a full-height coursed rubble stone basement, this wood frame house is three bays wide with an eave-oriented roof. A full-width shed-roof covering the first story sits atop the stone foundation leaving access to the side passage entrance to the basement. The porch is supported with square wood posts and a scroll sawn balustrade. The basement and first story entries contain single-leaf wood paneled doors. The first story entry is illuminated with a two-light transom, and five 1/1 double-hung vinyl sash windows pierce the façade. Two interior-end brick corbeled cap chimneys rise above the standing-seam metal side-gable roof featuring overhanging eaves and cornice returns. Alterations and additions to the house include its re-cladding with aluminum siding, including the thin surrounds, sills, and the boxed cornice.

Standing on the hill to the northeast of the house (rear), are two historic outbuildings associated with this property. A circa 1950 wood-frame chicken coop is one story high and four bays wide and is clad with weatherboard siding. Two windows are screened and the remaining one is a 6-light wood awning window. The center bay is open. The building is capped with a corrugated sheet metal roof. The second outbuilding is a circa 1950 wood frame shed with a front-gable asphalt shingle roof. It is clad with plywood boards with a center open bay on the southeast (side) elevation. It has exposed roof rafters and a rear shed roof addition.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-1197

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

<b>Specific dates</b>	1880 ca.	<b>Architect/Builder</b>	Unknown
<b>Construction dates</b>	1880 ca.		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Located at 20644 Keeney Mill Road, the Keeney's Mill Worker's House Number 1 was constructed circa 1880 near Middletown in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. According to oral history, the dwelling was constructed to provide housing for the workers at Keeney's Mill. The gristmill, which was constructed by the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was located at the intersection of Ruhl and Keeney Mill Roads. In 1885, Keeney's Mill replaced the grinding stones with self-contained roller grinding units that improved the quality of the flour.<sup>1</sup> Although the exact date of construction for the house was not determined, architectural evidence and historic maps support a circa 1880 date. Although the mill was constructed by 1850, the dwelling does not appear on the 1850 J. C. Sidney Atlas or the 1877 Hopkins Atlas. This was one of two workers houses constructed adjacent to Keeney's Mill.

The Sixth District is located in the northwest corner of Baltimore County and is historically known for its rugged landscape, abundant waterpower, and production of wheat, corn, and oats. The dwelling was constructed during the height of development in Middletown. By 1850, Middletown had begun to thrive, as the mid-century county atlas indicates that the town included a tavern and schoolhouse in addition to several residences along Middletown Road between Freeland and Oakland Road.<sup>2</sup> By 1877, a church had been erected and Middletown had grown from a small crossroads community into a rural center. At that time, the town included a physician's office, schoolhouse, Odd Fellows hall, a store and one "shop."<sup>3</sup> Although the community's 1881 population of only forty-nine inhabitants did not appear significant, the town was nevertheless in a strategic location between two crossroads along Middletown Road.<sup>4</sup> Growth in and around Middletown slowed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, leaving it a rural community in northern Baltimore County.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> John W. McGrain, *Grist Mills in Baltimore County, Maryland*, (Towson, MD: Baltimore County Public Library, 1980), p. 9.

<sup>2</sup> J. C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

<sup>3</sup> *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

<sup>4</sup> J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA), p. 870.

<sup>5</sup> *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-1197

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.  
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.  
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.  
*Map of Baltimore County.* Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.  
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.  
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	9.90 Acres	
Acreage of historical setting	Unknown	
Quadrangle name	New Freedom	Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The Keeney's Mill Worker House No. 1 is located at 20644 Keeney Mill Road near Middletown in the Sixth District of Baltimore County. Historically, it has been associated with tax map 6, parcel 274 since its construction during the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## 11. Form Prepared by

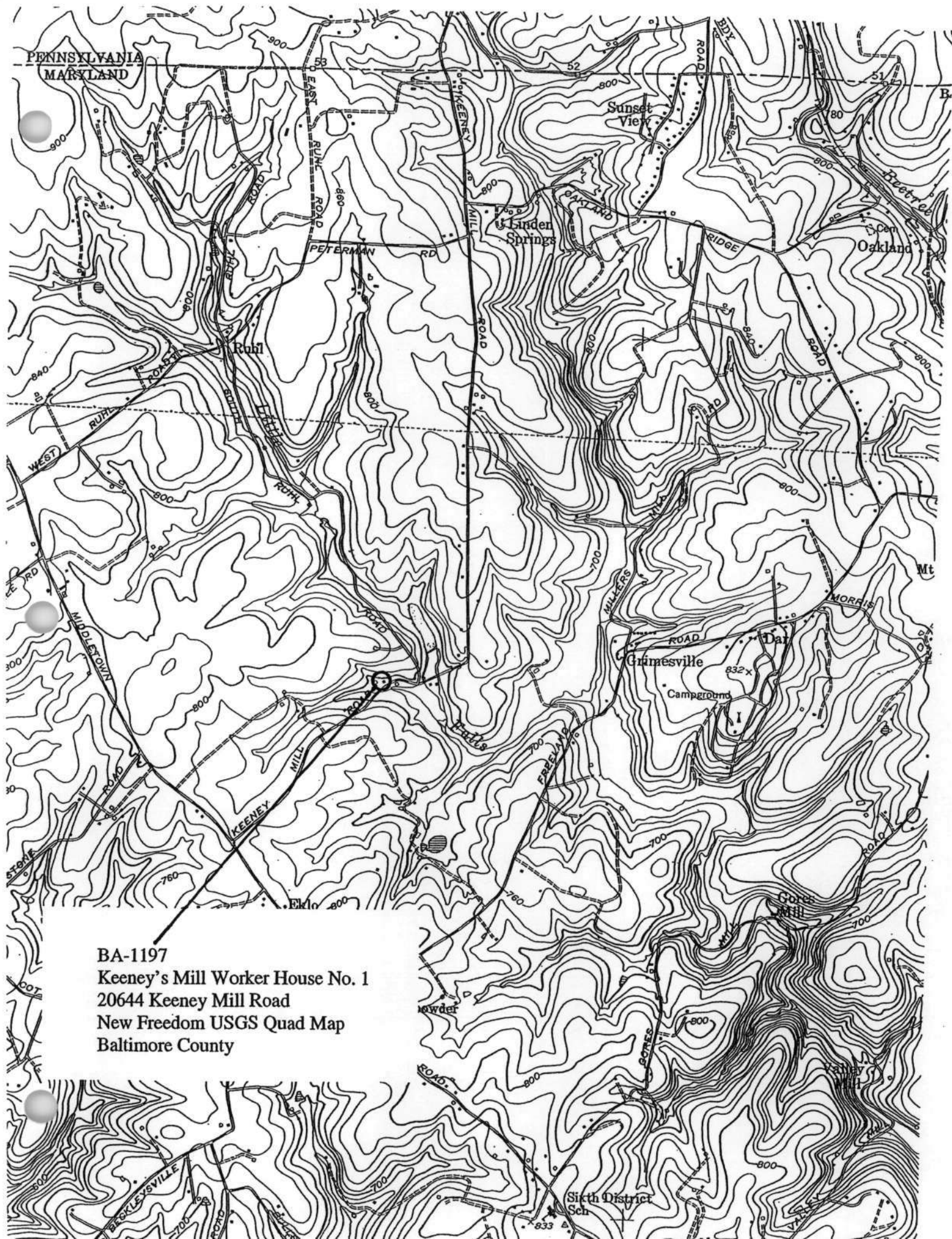
name/title	R. Weidlich and K. Baynard, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	February 11, 2002
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600





BA-1197  
Keeney's Mill Worker House No. 1  
20644 Keeney Mill Road  
New Freedom USGS Quad Map  
Baltimore County



BA-1197  
KEENEY'S MILL Worker House No. 1  
BALTIMORE County, MD

TRACERIES

2/2002

MHT

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

1 of 5





BA-1197

KEENEY'S MILL WORKER HOUSE No. 1

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

2/2002

MHT

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

2 of 5



BA-1197

Keene's Mill Worker House No. 1

Baltimore County, MD

TRAILERIES

2/2002

MHT

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

3 of 5





BA-1197  
Keeney's Mill Worker House No. 1  
Baltimore County, MD  
TRACERIES  
2/2002  
MHT  
CHICKEN COOP, SOUTH CORNER  
4 of 5



BA-1197

Keene's Mill Worker House No 1

BALTIMORE County, MD

TRACERIES

2/2002

MHT

SHED, SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

5 of 5

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

MAGI #0311975504

BA-1197

NOMINATION FORM

for the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON: <i>Keeney's Millworker house #1</i>				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>North side of Keeney's Mill Road about 0.1 mi</i>				
CITY OR TOWN: <i>near Eklo west of S. Ruhl Road</i>				
STATE: <i>Maryland</i>		COUNTY: <i>Baltimore</i>		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum
<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: <i>Alice W. Satter Keeney Mill (Farms Associate)</i>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>Jefferson Building</i>				
CITY OR TOWN: <i>Baltimore</i>		STATE: <i>MD</i>		
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b> <i>TAX MAP 6, PARCEL 274 (See 2 Plat 1, Plat 36/28) in Lot 9</i>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: <i>BALTIMORE COUNTY COURTS BUILDING</i>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>Bosley Ave</i>				
CITY OR TOWN: <i>Towson</i>		STATE: <i>MD</i>		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): <i>1339/5623</i>				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: <i>BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY</i>				
DATE OF SURVEY: <i>ONGOING SINCE 1974</i>				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: <i>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST</i>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>21 STATE CIRCLE</i>				
CITY OR TOWN: <i>ANNAPOLIS</i>		STATE: <i>MARYLAND</i>		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M6  
P20

3/1/78

3/1/78

3/1/78

3/1/78

3/1/78

field check for loc. + addenda: A. Harton 3/1/78

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This frame house, <sup>on high stone foundation</sup> is 3 bays by 2, faces south.  
 The roof ridge line runs east-west.  
 Clapboards covered, <sup>German siding, rectangular in plan</sup> along, the pitched roof  
 is covered with slate. Fireplaces inside  
 the end walls have chimneys at either end  
 of the house. A one-story porch runs  
 across the south side of the house.

As of 3/1/78, the house has been recently painted a yellow ochre, with  
 white trim, & dark shutters. The grounds have been tidied.  
 The effect is attractive & inviting. (A. Matten)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian      ☐ 16th Century      ☐ 18th Century      ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century      ☐ 17th Century      ☒ 19th Century

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                      |   |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education   | <input type="checkbox"/> Political      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry    | losophy                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> Science        | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | Architecture                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature  | itarian                                 | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater        | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            | <input type="checkbox"/> Music       | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____                                    |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This Main farm house has survived  
 a period of declining farming in the  
 area and will probably be renovated  
 for further residential use if the housing  
 shortage continues.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

BA-1197

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 201.1 A. of entire development tract

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

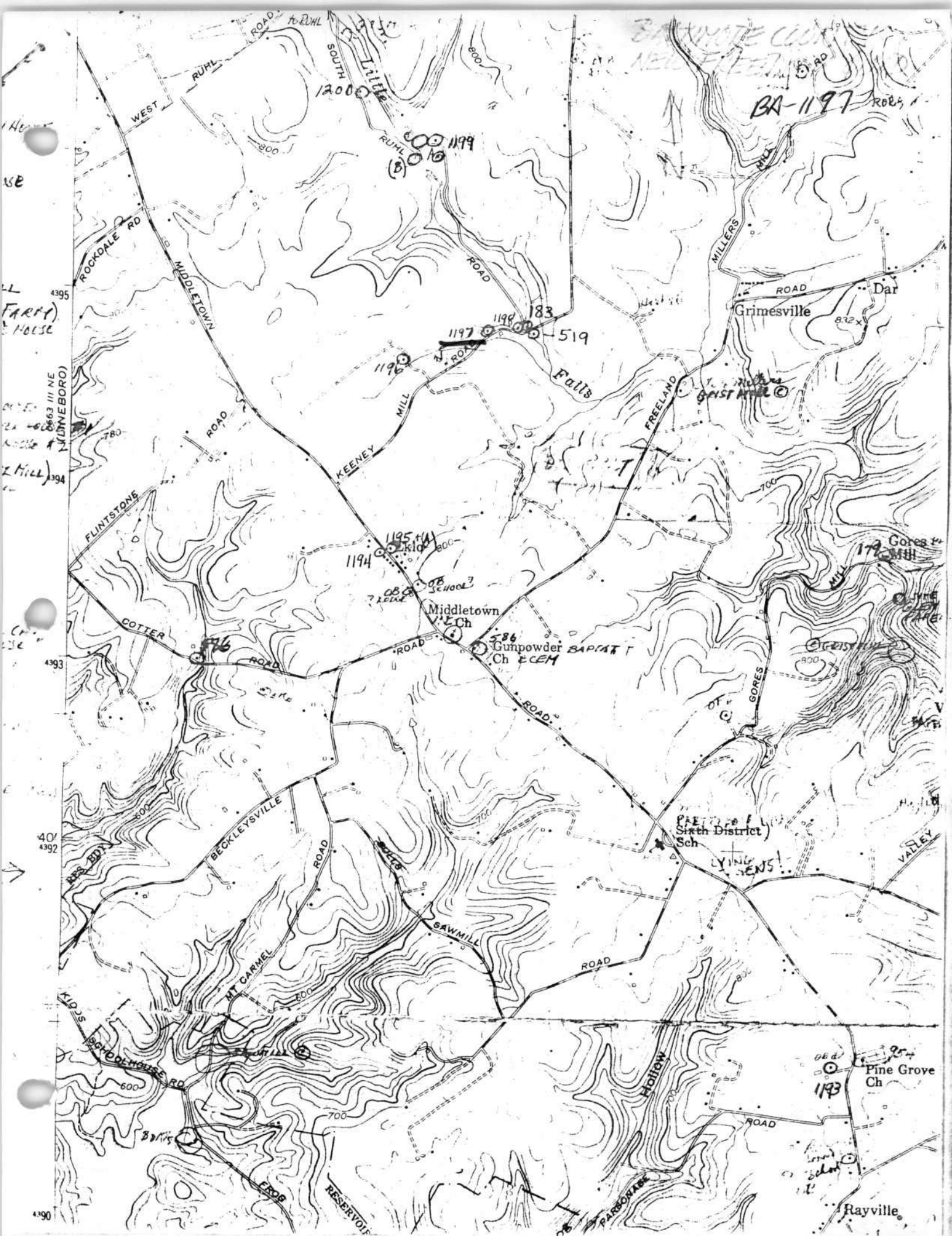
NAME AND TITLE:	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
JEAN S. EWING	
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
2525 RIVA ROAD	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE
ANNAPOLIS	MARYLAND

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature





Ba-1197

VI-NEW-1197 KEENE'S MILLWORKER HOUSE #1  
KEENEY HILL ROAD, EKLOUKINITY

PHOTO: JEAN S. EWING 1/73 (frame 14)

88

1/73